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**BREAKTHROUGH MAGNET SCHOOL EDUCATOR IS CHOSEN
HARTFORD TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Carol Gale, a 7/8 grade Arts and Humanities teacher at Breakthrough Magnet School, has been selected as Hartford's 2004-2005 Teacher of the Year.

"I am so pleased that Ms. Gale has been selected as our Teacher of the Year," said Robert Henry, Superintendent of Schools. "She exemplifies the dedication and commitment of our teaching staff and we celebrate this honor with her."

Including her years at Moylan and McDonough elementary schools, Carol has dedicated 13 years of teaching to Hartford Public Schools. She is one of three people who co-founded the Breakthrough Magnet School.

Carol earned her undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from UConn and her Masters in Reading and Language Arts from St. Joseph College. She belongs to a number of professional organizations, including the International Reading Association; the National Council of Teachers of English; the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators Network; the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; and the Hartford Federation of Teachers.

Last year, Carol was selected as a Fulbright Memorial Scholar to travel to Japan to learn about the country's culture and educational system. Upon her return, she created and implemented a professional development workshop, as well as a special edition news report to share her knowledge and experiences with Breakthrough Magnet School students and staff.

One of Carol's colleagues at Breakthrough expressed the overall feeling for this very special educator: "Carol approaches each day as though it will be one of the most

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important days in her students' academic lives. She knows how to motivate, counsel, guide and participate actively in the goals and achievements of her students, families and the staff members at Breakthrough Magnet School.”

Hartford Teacher of the Year candidates are selected on the following criteria:

- Be a tenured K-12 teacher in Hartford Public Schools
- Exhibit exemplary teaching skills in the classroom
- Is dedicated to the belief that all children can learn
- Be active in community and humanitarian activities
- Plan to continue actively in the teaching profession

Carol is planning on applying for Connecticut State Teacher of the Year, who will be chosen in October 2004.